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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/709,431	05/05/2004	Yi-Lun Chou	12767-US-PA	3430
31561	7590	01/11/2006	EXAMINER	
JIANQ CHYUN INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY OFFICE			CHIEN, LUCY P	
7 FLOOR-1, NO. 100			ART UNIT	
ROOSEVELT ROAD, SECTION 2			PAPER NUMBER	
TAIPEI, 100			2871	
TAIWAN			DATE MAILED: 01/11/2006	

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

<b>Office Action Summary</b>	<b>Application No.</b> 10/709,431	<b>Applicant(s)</b> CHOU ET AL.	
	<b>Examiner</b> Lucy P. Chien	<b>Art Unit</b> 2871	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

### Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

### Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on \_\_\_\_.
- 2a) ☐ This action is FINAL.                      2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

### Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-20 is/are pending in the application.  
     4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-20 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

### Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 05 May 2004 is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
     Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
     Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

### Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).  
     a) ☒ All    b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_.
  3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

### Attachment(s)

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)  | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)<br>Paper No(s)/Mail Date. ____. |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)                                   | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)             |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)<br>Paper No(s)/Mail Date ____. | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: ____.  |

## **DETAILED ACTION**

### ***Claim Objections***

Claim 4,13 are objected to because of the following informalities: "wherein an optical density of the light-shielding layer is 2.0 or more than 2.0" Applicant has left out the measurement unit.

Appropriate correction is required.

### ***Response to Arguments***

Applicant's arguments with respect to claim 1-20 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

### ***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102***

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

**Claim 1-7,9-20** are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Nagashima et al (US 20020051106).

#### **Regarding Claim 1,18,**

Nagashima et al discloses (Fig. 4) a first substrate (101), having a first surface and a second surface (shown below); a second substrate (102), having a third surface (shown below); a sealant (130) disposed between the second surface of the first substrate (101) and the third surface of the second substrate (102); a liquid crystal layer (110) disposed among the second surface of the first substrate (101), the third surface of the second substrate (102) and the sealant (130); and a light shielding layer (150), disposed over the first surface of the first substrate (101) and not overlapping a display area.



Regarding Claim 3,12,

Regarding Claim 4,13,

**Regarding Claim 5, 15**

Regarding Claim 6, 17

***Regarding Claim 7,***

Nagashima et al discloses (Fig. 4) wherein a width of the light shielding layer (150) partially protectively overlaps the black matrix layer (103).

Regarding Claim 11,20,

Nagashima et al discloses wherein the light-shielding layer is formed via a screen printing method (Page 2, [0025]).

Regarding Claim 14,

Nagashima et al discloses (Fig. 4) the light shield layer is disposed on a peripheral area outside the display area.

***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103***

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

**Claim 8** is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Nagashima et al (US 20020051106) in view of Suzuki et al (US 5739880).

Nagashima et al does not disclose the light shielding layer exposes a portion of the sealant.

Suzuki et al discloses Figure 9 (Column 13, Row 35-50) the light shielding layer exposes a portion of the sealant so that the back light BLL at the portion in the seal portion can be prevented from leaking.

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skilled in the art to modify Nagashima et al to include Suzuki et al's light shielding layer exposes a portion of the sealant so that the back light BLL at the portion in the seal portion can be prevented from leaking (Column 13, Row 35-50).


***Conclusion***

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Lucy P. Chien whose telephone number is 571-272-8579. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 8:30-5:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Robert Kim can be reached on (571)272-2293. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Lucy Chien  
Examiner  
Art Unit 2871  
LC

  
ANDREW SCHECHTER  
PRIMARY EXAMINER